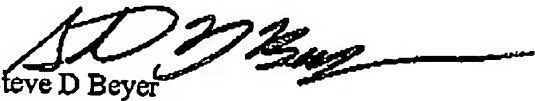


REMARKS

Note that the pending claims are based on the article 34 amendments submitted during the international phase of the corresponding PCT application.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

4. A method according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, further comprising the step of testing reliability of communications links between said communications module to be inserted and the two modules with which it is to communicate directly when in said communication mode.

8. A method according to claim [6] 7, further comprising the step of inserting at least one further communications module by means of a method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 6].

9. A method according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 7, further comprising the step of testing reliability of communications links between modules intended to communicate directly with each other.

10. A method according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 7, further comprising the step of changing the or each said communications module from said set-up mode to said communications mode by means of a signal from at least one said control module.